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# Message Text

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PAGE 01 ABU DH 02932 040906Z

17
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-07 /030 W
---------- 089232
P R 031025Z NOV 76
FM AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
TO USDOC WASHDC PRIORITY
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 5133
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY BAGHDAD

UNCLAS ABU DHABI 2932

ATHENS FOR RTDO

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: BEXP, TC
SUBJ: US WATER RESOURCES TRADE MISSION

REF: (A) ABU DHABI 2839, (B) USDOC 18676

1. LATEST SCHEDULE PROPOSED FOR WATER RESOURCES MISSION (REF B) CALLS FOR ONLY ONE FULL WORKING DAY IN ABU DHABI (MONDAY JAN 17) AND MISSION DEPARTURE AT 3:45 AM ON JANUARY 18 WITH ARRIVAL IN BAGHDAD AT 6:00 AM. EMB ABU DHABI DISAPPOINTED THAT THIS IMPORTANT MARKET BEING GIVEN SO LITTLE TIME, BUT WE WILL DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO MAKE MISSION AS SUCCESSFUL AS POSSIBLE WITHIN THE TIME ALLOTTED. WE ALSO SURPRISED COMMERCE HAS OPTED FOR OVERNIGHT FLIGHT TO BAGHDAD WHICH LIKELY TO LEAVE MISSION MEMBERS EXHAUSTED DURING IRAQ PORTION OF TRIP. IS USDOC CERTAIN THERE IS NO PREFERABLE ALTERNATIVE TO SCHEULE PROPOSED REF B?

2. EMB HAS CONFIRMED RESERVATIONS FOR 12 SIGNLES IN DUBAI FOR JAN 13 - 17 AND FOR SIX DOUBLES IN ABU DHABI FOR JAN 13- 17 SO COMMERCE STILL HAS SOME FLEXIBILITY IN SETTING SCHEDULE FOR U.A.E. PORTION OF MISSION.

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PAGE 02 ABU DH 02932 040906Z

3. PLANAGAN TRAVEL BY LAND FROM ABU DHABI TO DUBAI IS

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

NO PROBLEM. EMB CAN PROBABLY PROVIDE TRANSPORTATION.
MISSION TRAVEL BY LAND ALSO POSSIBLE. COST OF TRIP
IS APPROXIMATELY $50 PER TAXI WITH TWO MISSION MEMBERS
PLUS BAGGAGE IN EACH CAR.

4. COST OF CARS WITH DRIVERS FOR NORTHERN EMRIATES TOUR
WILL BE APPROXIMATELY $100 PER CAR FOR THE DAY. BELIEVE
WE CAN COMFORTABLY PUT THREE PEOPLE (WITHOUT BAGGAGE) IN
EACH CAR. THERE ARE NO PASSPORT, VISA, OR CUSTOMS CHECKS
WHEN TRAVELLING BY LAND WITHIN THE EMIRATES. MISSION
MEMBERS MUST, HOWEVER, HAVE VISAS OBTAINED IN ADVANCE TO
ENTER THE COUNTRY.

5. ACTION REQUESTED: REQUEST THAT COMMERCE RECONSIDER
SCHEDULE PROPOSED REF B IN LIGHT OF COMMENTS PARA 1 ABOVE.
IS THIS REALLY WHAT YOU WANT TO DO? BELIEVE NOW - BEFORE
WE MAKE ANY ARRANGMENTS WITH LOCAL CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE-
IS TIME TO CONSIDER CAREFULLY ANY POSSIBLE CHANGES IN
ITINERARY. WE WILL AWAIT WORD BEFOE REARRANGING PLANAGAN'S
OR MISSION'S HOTEL RESERVATIONS. BOTH HOLTON AND INTERCON
DUBAI NOW BOOKED SOLID DURING MUCH OF DECEMBER. WE WILL
MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO GET PLANAGAN A ROOM BUT IN EVENT
THIS NOT POSSIBLE PLANAGAN WELCOME TO STAY AT HOME OF
C. CURREIR IN DUBAI AND R. COURTNEY IN ABU DHABI.

6. WE WILL TAKE UP QUESTION OF CONFERENCE ROOM WITH HOTELS.
WE ANTICIPATE NO PROBLEM OBTAINING CONFERENCE ROOM AS
DESCRIBED REF B.
DICKMAN

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

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